

REMARKS

In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, reconsideration of the rejections contained in the Office Action of July 11, 2008 is respectfully requested.

In the outstanding Office Action, the Examiner rejected pending claims 18-28, 30, and 31 under 35 USC § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. In particular, the Examiner asserted that “there is no disclosure of the concept of controlling the direction of rotation to maximize the distance traveled by the liquid” as recited in previously-pending independent claim 18, and therefore asserted that the amended claims submitted April 4, 2008 were not supported by the original disclosure. In order to clarify these rejections, the Applicants’ undersigned representative contacted the Examiner by telephone on July 30, 2008. In view of that discussion with the Examiner, the claims have now been amended as indicated above.

In particular, the “maximize” language which the Examiner alleges is not supported by the original disclosure has now been deleted from independent claim 18, although the Applicants do not acquiesce to the Examiner’s position. In addition, alternate language discussed with the Examiner has been inserted into independent claim 18. As acknowledged by the Examiner during the telephone discussion, it is submitted that the new language now appearing in amended independent claim 18 is fully supported by the original disclosure. Thus, the Applicants further submit that the Examiner’s formal rejections under section 112 have been overcome.

The Applicants note that the Examiner applied no prior art rejections against the claims. In fact, the Applicants submit that both the previously-pending claims and the claims as amended are clearly distinguishable from and patentable over the prior art of record. Thus, claims 18-28, 30, and 31 are now in condition for allowance.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance. However, if the Examiner should have any comments or suggestions to help speed the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is requested to contact the Applicants' undersigned representative.

Respectfully submitted,

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